(b) what is the target to raise funds from private source for development of education; and

(c) by when every child upto the age of atleast 14 years will be able to get education in our country;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) while encouraging non-govern mental and voluntary effort in the field of education, the National Policy of Education 1986 (as revised in 1992) had recommended suitable steps to prevent commercialization of education.

(c) While the National policy of education and its Programme of Action 1986 (as revised in 1992) set a target of elementary education satisfactory quality to all children in the age group 6-14 by the turn of the Century, efforts to provide education to every child are being continuously made.

Better Opportunities to Persons Coming Out of IITs and IIMS

1796. MISS MABEL REBELLO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gifted students coming out of IIT of India and other premier institutions like IMS head towards the West;

(b) whether Government have failed to offer adequate conductive environment, whereby their services could be utilised for creating wealth for the nation;

(c) whether they could be used to create more employment opportunities to the fellow Indians; and

(d) whether Government have any policy to retain talented and skilled youths in the country, by providing them best opportunities and to satisfy them, both professionally and monetarily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (d) While some students passing out Indian Institutes of Technology go abroad for higher studies as well as employment, a small number of pass outs from Indian Institute of Management go abroad. The Institutions have well established training and placement facilities through which many students get

good jobs in the country itself. Many of the students having gone abroad do return to India after certain period and either take employment in various sectors or establish their own industries which further provide jobs to fellow Indians. This is a value addition to the country. The Government have also initiated various programmes and schemes to encourage young scientists and technologists. The Government of India also taken steps including increse in science and Technology outlays, creation of new scientific departments/ Organisations, delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers to science and Technology Institutions etc.

India's Presence in Antarctic Region

1797. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to increase its presence in the Antarctic region; and

(b) if so, what are the future plans to ensure a purposeful presence there?

THE MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOMENT (DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No Sir, The Government do not have any plans at present to increase its presence in Antarctica.

(b) The Government will continue to pursue research in line with the national policies and priorities, particularly in the areas of Atmospheric Sciences, Earth Sciences, Human Physiology, Biology, Communication and Engineering, etc., as in the past.

Enquiry into Death of Trainee Fitter in NE Railway

1798. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) under what circumstances, Shri Joydeep Das, Trainee Fitter, Mechanical (C & W), Eastern Railway, was electrocuted at Platform No.14 of Howrah Station on 7th October, 1999 leading to his death on 16th October, 1999;

(b) who ordered him to work at platform instead of carriage and workshop; and